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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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APR 12 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Wendell H. Ford  
United States Senator  
343 Waller Avenue  
Suite 204  
Lexington, Kentucky 40504

Dear Senator Ford:

This is in reply to your letter of February 5, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity to promote

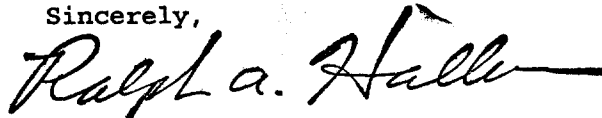
Honorable Wendell H. Ford

2.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Haller  
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:  
Notice  
Order  
Discussion paper

cc:  
Chief, PRBureau  
Chief, LM&M Divison  
Docket Files, Room 222  
P&P Branch File (Pink)

CNTL NO - 9300542

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CONGRESS/9300542

# Congressional

DATE OBC: 2-19-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

United States Senate

MEMORANDUM

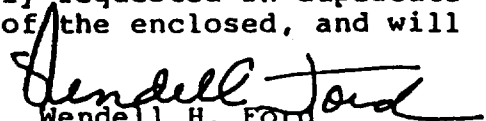
February 5, 1993

PKK  
92-235  
542

TO: FCC

RE: Please review the enclosed and advise.

This office desires to be quickly and thoroughly responsive to all inquiries and communications. Your consideration and report regarding the attached is respectfully requested in duplicate along with the return of the enclosed, and will be appreciated by

  
Wendell H. Ford  
Kentucky

Please address envelope only to the attention of:

Mrs. Pat Gregory  
Office of Senator Wendell Ford  
343 Waller Avenue  
Suite 204  
Lexington, Kentucky 40504

# Draft Letter to Senator or Representative Regarding FCC Rule Making

The Honorable [-Name-]  
[-Address-]  
[-Address-]

[-Date-]

RECEIVED FEB 02 1993

Dear Mr./Mrs. [-Name-] (if to Representative):  
Dear Senator [-Name-] (if to Senator):

[Begin with a description of the writer's interest. E.g., "I am retired and derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes." Or, "I have been interested in aviation for as long as I can remember. I am very active in a local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes."]

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

*J. V. Ali*